

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 03113 301412Z

51

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 SY-04 USSS-00

SCCT-02 EB-11 COME-00 SS-20 SP-03 NSC-07 L-03 H-03

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 DRC-01 /086 W

----- 112969

O R 301355Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6272

INFO USCINCSO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUENOS AIRES 3113

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, AR (SAMUELSON, VICTOR)

SUBJ: SAMUELSON RELEASED BY ERP

1. VICTOR SAMUELSON WHO HAD BEEN KIDNAPPED ON DEC 6 WAS RELEASED BY HIS ERP CAPTORS 0715 HRS YESTERDAY APR 29. ACCORDING TO ONE REPORT, HE SPENT THE DAY AT A LOCAL HOTEL AND LEFT THE COUNTRY AROUND 1900 ON A VARIG FLIGHT FOR NEW YORK. FEDERAL POLICE APPARENTLY DID NOT INTERVIEW HIM BEFORE HE LEFT. ESSO OFFICIALS, WHILE STEADFASTLY DENYING ANY KNOWLEDGE OF HIS RELEASE, ALSO HAD LONG TALKS WITH SAMUELSON BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE. ACCORDING TO ESSO CO. DOCTOS HE APPEARS IN GOOD HEALTH AND SAYS HE WAS TREATED WELL.

2. AT PRESENT BEST THEORY FOR CAUSE OF TIME LAPSE BETWEEN PAYMENT OF \$14.2 MILLION RANSOM AND RELEASE IS THAT ERP WANTED TO WASH THE MONEY FIRST. TIMING OF THE RELEASE JUST BEFORE MAY DAY ACTIVITIES ALSO DESIGNED TO MAXIMIZE IMPACT. WHILE ERP CONTINUES TO BE DETERMINED TO DRIVE OUT "FOREIGN INFLUENCE" THEY DID NOT IN THIS INSTANCE RESORT TO THE MURDER OF A FOREIGN BUSINESSMAN AS SOME WERE BEGINNING TO FEAR.

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PAGE 02 BUENOS 03113 301412Z

3. ESSO DID NOT INFORM EMBASSY OF SAMUELSON'S RELEASE UNTIL

JUST BEFORE HE HAD DEPARTED COUNTRY. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF
DEPARTMENT COULD REQUEST DEBRIEF HIM AT SOME POINT IN THE NEAR
FUTURE.
HILL

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KIDNAPPING, PARAMILITARY FORCES, BUSINESSMEN, EXTORTION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BUENOS03113
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740102-0974
From: BUENOS AIRES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974044/aaaaacpr.tel
Line Count: 65
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 SEP 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <11 FEB 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SAMUELSON RELEASED BY ERP
TAGS: PINS, PFOR, AR, US, ESSO, (SAMUELSON, VICTOR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005